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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 088941/0178

Applicant: Taisuke SAGARA

Title: IMAGE DECODING APPARATUS, SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE, AND IMAGE DECODING METHOD

Serial No. 09/761,775

Filed: January 18, 2001

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Examiner: Unknown

Technology Center 2600

Art Unit: 2614

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and 37 CFR §1.97**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-SB08 is a list of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any documents which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is believed to be filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (first scenario). If that is not the case, such as in a second scenario in which a first Office Action on the merits has been mailed before the filing of the instant Information Disclosure Statement, then either a certification or fee is required, and a certification is provided below. If neither of the first or second scenarios is the case, such as if a final Office Action or a notice of allowance has been mailed by the PTO (third scenario), then both a certification and fee are required, and in that case a certification is provided below and also the PTO is authorized to obtain the necessary fee to have the instant IDS considered, from Foley & Lardner Deposit Account #19-0741.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that items of information A4 through A12 listed on the PTO-SB08 form submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement. Items of information A1, A2 and A3 are U.S. patents that are counterparts to items of information A7, A8 and A11, respectively.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

A translation of a portion of a Japanese Office Action that issued October 29, 2002 with respect to a counterpart Japanese patent application is provided below.

"Record

(Refer to the List of Cited Literature, etc. for the cited literature.)

1. Cited Literature 1 and 2 regarding the invention related to Claim 1.

Remarks

Described in Cited Literature 1 and 2 is the same invention as the invention related to the Claim 1 of the present application.

2. Cited Literature 2 regarding the invention related to Claims 2, 3, 9, 10, 12, and 13

Remarks

Described in Cited Literature 2 is the same invention as the invention related to Claims 2, 3, 9, 10, 12, and 13 of the present application.

3. Cited Literature 2 regarding the invention related to Claim 4

Remarks

The fact that the input signal is input through a PCI path is nothing more than well-known technology.

4. Cited Literature 1 and 2 regarding the invention related to Claim 5

Remarks

Described in Cited Literature 2 is the fact that a perpendicular image synchronous signal used in image output is also applied to the signal of another channel using the signal of either channel as the standard.

5. Cited Literature 1 and 2 regarding the invention related to Claim 6

Remarks

The fact that a counter is used and perpendicular image synchronous signals are produced is nothing more than well-known technology in the technical field of image synchronous signal production.

6. Cited Literature 1 and 2 regarding the invention related to Claim 7

Remarks

An image format of 1920 horizontal pixels by 1080 perpendicular lines and an image format of 720 horizontal pixels by 480 perpendicular lines are commonly known image formats, and converting to the aforementioned 2 formats is nothing more than design items that a person skilled in the art could suitably select.

7. Cited Literature 1 and 2 regarding the invention related to Claim 8 and 11

Remarks

Forming elements configured by the image copying device described in Cited Literature 1 and 2, and a semiconductor device on the same semiconductor integrated circuit substrate could be suitably performed by a person skilled in the art.

At the current time, no reason for rejection has been discovered for the inventions relating to the claims other than the claims indicated in this Notification of Reasons for Rejection. If reasons for rejection are newly discovered, then notification of the reasons for rejection will be sent.

List of Cited Literature, etc.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H05-176305
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H11-187396

Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results

Searched Fields IPC Ed.7
 H04N7/00-7/088
 H04N5/04-5/12
 H04N7/24-7/68

Prior Art Literature

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H03-131185
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H05-252520

3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H06-090432
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H06-153183
5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H07-162810
6. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H08-088838
7. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2000-316140

This Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results does not constitute a reason for rejection."

Applicant's statements regarding the Japanese Office Action are based on a partial translation that Applicant's representative obtained. These statements should in no way be considered as an agreement by Applicant with, or an admission of, which is asserted in the Japanese Office Action.

Applicant respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form-SB08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

December 18, 2002
Date

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